

# Harris County ESD #9

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President

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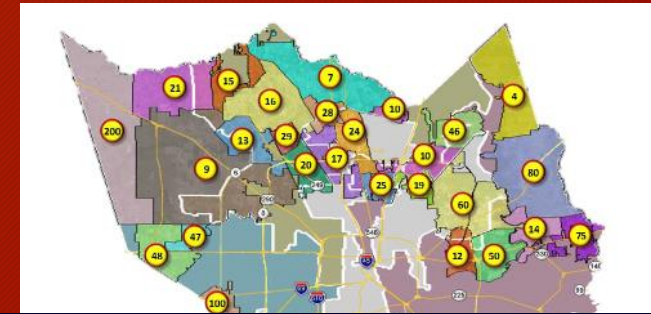
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# HCESD#9

- Northwest Harris County
- Fire, rescue, and EMS services provided through the Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept.
- Approximately 165 square miles
- Protect 500,000 plus in the district
- Combination (fire department; volunteer and paid) 600
- Provide mutual aid regularly to all adjoining jurisdictions
- Approximately 36,000 911 calls annually
- 2018 budget was \$56MM including capital expenses
  - (ad valorem \$18MM, Sales tax \$28MM)



Dispatch Center	25 Aug.	26 Aug.	27 Aug.	28 Aug.	29 Aug.	30 Aug.	31 Aug.
CyFair FD	73	100	136	498	479	150	98

# Harvey impact on HCESD#9

- Over 2,100 directly rescued by CFVFD.
- What we learned:
  - Outside support was not easily obtained due to inaccessibility.
  - Unified command was established late into process.
  - National Guard, lacked radios to communicate with responders.
  - Assets deployed should be serviceable for the intended purpose.
    - Example: NG operational procedures, vehicle readiness
  - Shelters, embarkation points were not readily available when required.
  - Local responsibility for assets should be encouraged instead of expecting mutual aid partners to respond.





# Financial impact of Harvey on HCESD#9

- Ad valorem tax base has been reduced due to loss of many buildings in Bear Creek/Addicks area. Do not yet know impact on tax revenue.
- Requiring purchase of additional assets; high water vehicles, additional boats, swiftwater training, additional radios.
- Loss of fire station # 5, replacement cost \$6MM.
- Fire station #3 also in 500 year flood plain (flooded three times in last 3 years), may need to be relocated, replacement cost \$6MM.
- Repair damage to apparatus driving in water for extended periods.

# Financial impact of Harvey on other ESD's in our mutual aid area

- Ad valorem tax base reduced due to loss of many buildings. Do not yet know impact.
- Purchasing or considering purchasing additional assets; high water vehicles, additional boats, swiftwater training.
- Slowness of FEMA reimbursement provides severe hardship for smaller ESD's that do not have any reserves.
- ESD's at the tax cap and no Sales Tax options, have exhausted options for providing for expected public safety.

# Future concerns for our ESD

- Unprecedented and continuous growth of the district.
- Construction of new fire stations due to rapid growth to protect the public and maintain ISO rating for insurance purposes. Approximately \$6MM each, plus apparatus of \$2MM.
- Inevitability that eventually a fully paid department may become necessary in the future. Current payroll is \$17MM per year with volunteers and some paid. Fully paid estimate would be \$160,000MM per year. Over \$100,000MM per year over our maximum possible revenue stream.
- Community Paramedicine - generally no cost recovery, current estimate would be approximately \$1MM per year to begin the program.
- Increasing regulatory requirements for additional training/certification.
- Legislative action that impacts current or future funding of ESD's.





Questions?